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TYPES OF NEGRITOS IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS¹

By ROBERT BENNETT BEAN

THE Aetas, or Negritos, of the Philippines have been studied at close range by Meyer, Montano, Reed, and others, and from a distance by many anthropologists. The Honorable Dean C. Worcester, Secretary of the Interior of the Philippine Islands, has visited the Negritos wherever in the archipelago they could be found; yet never before have they been classified into types, although at least three types are represented among them — three types that are the fundamental units of mankind — the Primitive, the Iberian, and the Australoid. The most plausible supposition to account for the three types among the Negritos is that the Australoid preceded the Iberian and Primitive, who have been incorporated with the Australoid as the result of recent or remote intrusions. By the workings of Mendelian heredity the kinky hair, black skin, and diminutive stature of the Australoid have obscured the characteristics of the other types.

This is the first study dealing with the ears and physical characteristics of the Philippine Islanders of the interior and is based largely on photographs in the collection of the Bureau of Science of the Philippine Government, and in the private collection of Mr Worcester, to whom I am indebted for access to both collections.

The Negritos are the first of the inland tribes selected for study, because they are relatively few in number and are undoubtedly becoming fewer, as they lose their purity when they come into contact with surrounding peoples. They were selected also because very few studies of Negritos have been made dealing with the physical characteristics of the living, and no previous study has been made of their ears; and, finally, because a large number of representative

¹ The photographs of the Negritos in this paper are reproduced with the permission of the Secretary of the Interior of the Philippine Islands and the editor of the Philippine Journal of Science, in which journal they were originally published.

photographs of Negritos from many parts of the islands could be obtained.

The photographs have been derived from several sources, taken at various times by different men. The photographs of the Negritos of Bataan or Mariveles mountain, of Isabela province, of Pampanga province, and some of those of Palawan island and elsewhere, were taken by Mr Worcester. The Negritos of Zambales were photographed by Mr A. Reed and others; those of Cagayan by Mr Charles Martin of the Bureau of Science: the Tinitian and other Negritos (Bataks) of the island of Palawan were photographed by Lieutenant E. Y. Miller while governor, and the photographs of the Negritos of the island of Panay, provinces of Antique and Capiz, and of Ambos Camarines, were taken by Mr M. L. Miller, Chief of the Division of Ethnology, Bureau of Science. These are groups from which photographs have been studied, with the addition of a few others from out of the way places in the Philippine Islands.

It is to be noted that Negritos still remain in the Philippine Islands, from Palawan in the south to the extreme northern end of Luzon.

Not only is the distribution of the Negritos so general throughout the islands, but the types selected show a similar general distribution, although slight local resemblances exist. The Negritos of a single locality have evidently inbred, yet the probability of intermixture with the surrounding populations can in no instance be excluded.

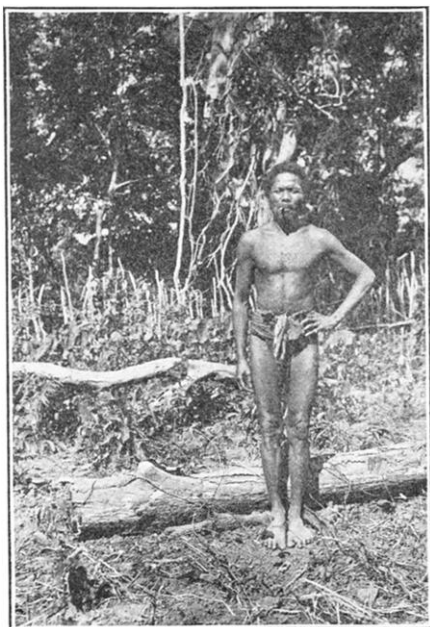


FIG. 12. — The chief of the tribe of Negritos in the Mariveles mountain across the bay from the city of Manila. Australoid type.

MARIVELES NEGRITOS

The Mariveles Negritos appear to be the purest Negritos in the Philippines judging from the photographs available, and the chief of the tribe in the mountain across the bay from Manila is a typical Negrito of the Australoid form (see figs. 12 and 13). The head is

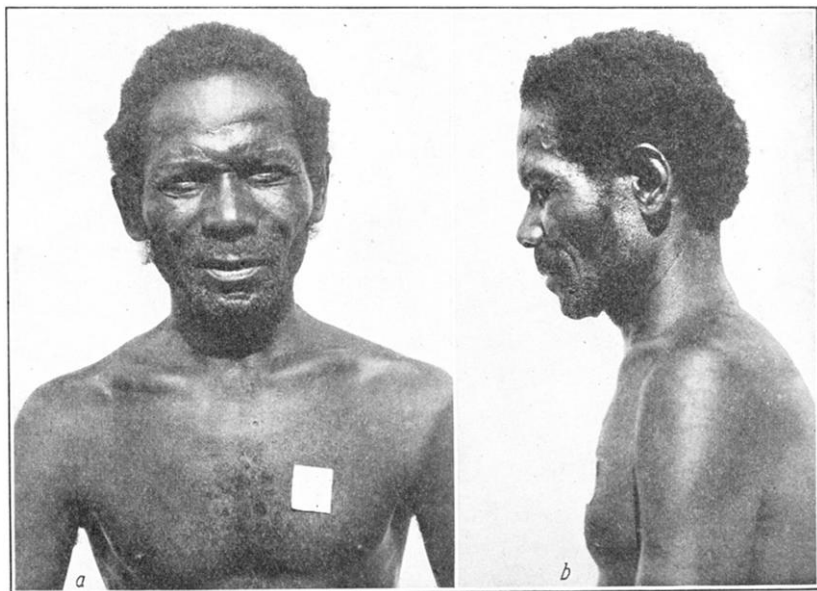


FIG. 13. — The same Negrito as in Fig. 12. Australoid type.

long and narrow, the face is moderately wide and short, the nose is large and straight, broad and heavy, but not flat and depressed like the nose of the Primitive, and the ear is a combination of Iberian and Primitive, the Australoid ear. The full figure of the Negrito chief is characteristic of the Australoid type. The extremities are long and the body is relatively short. The forearm and the lower leg appear to be unusually long, but no exact measurements were made. Measurements of the limb parts made on the photograph prove both the brachial index and the crural index to be high.

This type of Negrito is without doubt the true Negrito, and the greater number of Mariveles Negritos are of this type, which is also found wherever the Negrito exists in purity in the islands, espe-

cially in the northeastern part of Luzon along the shores of the Pacific ocean and in the adjacent mountains, which is the most unfrequented part of the archipelago, and the home of the largest number of pure Negritos in the Philippines.

The Primitive type is also found among the Mariveles Negritos, particularly among the women, and one of them, the most characteristic Primitive Negrito seen in the Philippines, is shown in figure 14.

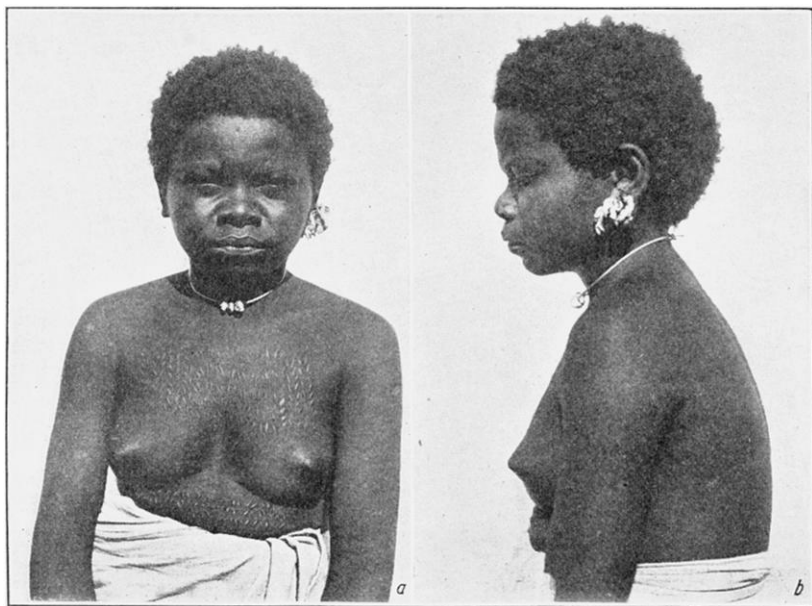


FIG. 14. — A young woman of the Mariveles tribe of Negritos. Primitive type.

In this individual the head is wide, the face is broad and flat, the nose is also broad and flat with depressed bridge and flaring nostrils that open forward rather than downward. The ears cannot be seen entirely, but the character of the visible parts justifies the conclusion that they are Primitive in form. The full lips and receding chin finish the infantile character-complex, and prove the type to be a Primitive.

The Iberian type is not found in pure form among the Mariveles Negritos but a few individuals have what may be called a degenerate

Iberian physiognomy. Such a Negrito is seen in figure 15. This man is considered by Mr Worcester to be a typical Negrito, and he is not greatly unlike "Ardi, one of the last of the Kalangs," whose picture is given on page 69 of *The World's Peoples* by Dr A. H. Keane; the ears of the two are almost identical in appearance. The head and face are long and narrow, the nose is neither flat nor large but rather thin and slender, and there is considerable facial prognathism, a characteristic of the Iberian. The

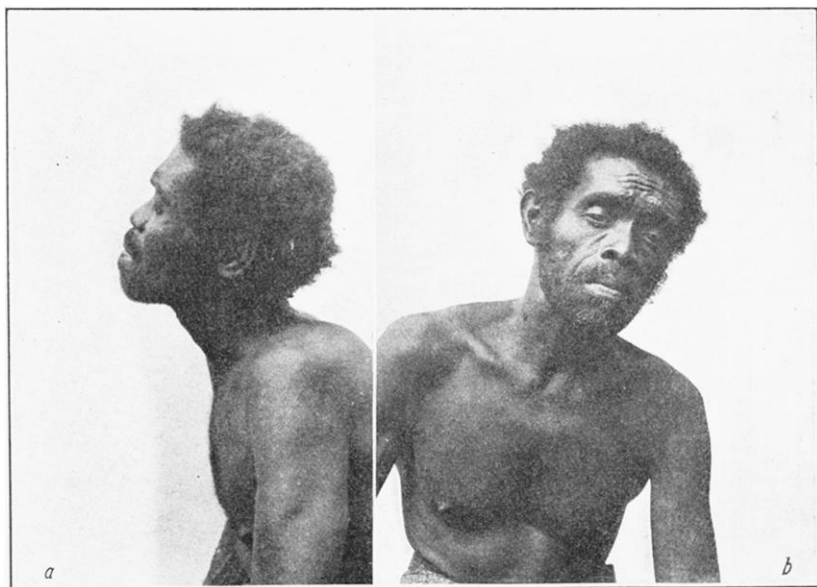


FIG. 15. — A Mariveles Negrito. Degenerate Iberian type.

ear is modified Iberian, with everted concha and turned out helix. The most plausible explanation of the presence of these two men, Ardi and the Mariveles man, among Negritos is that they represent a reversion to a remote cross of the Iberian with the Negrito.

ZAMBALES NEGRITOS

The Iberian type occurs in almost pure form among the Negritos in parts of the Philippines outside of the Mariveles group. A Negrito from Zambales of practically pure Iberian form

may be seen in figure 16. This man is so surely Iberian that were his skin white and his hair straight he might pass for a European. The forehead is vertical, the face long, thin, and slightly prognathous, the nose is slender and straight, and the chin is sharp. The ears are typical Iberian, with dependent lobule, everted concha, rolled out and spiral shaped helix. This man undoubtedly represents the result of a previous cross of the Negrito with an Iberian. It would appear from this combination of Iberian form and kinky hair that hair and physiognomy are separable characters in heredity and follow Mendel's laws, whereas the ear form and physiognomy hang together as a character-complex, although they, too, may be separable.

The Primitive type is more prevalent among the Zambales Negritos than any other type, and more than in the Mariveles Negritos. A characteristic Primitive

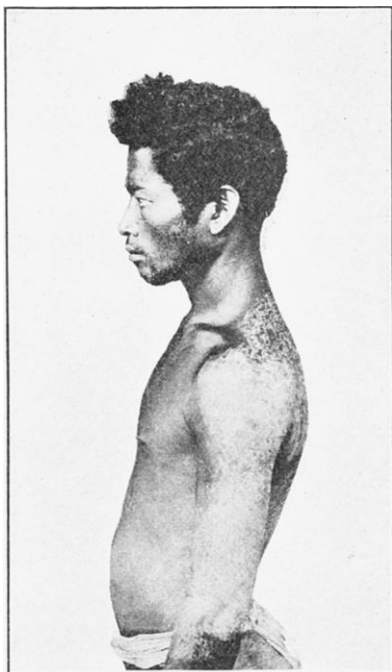


FIG. 16. — A Negrito man from Zambales. Iberian type.

Negrito man of Zambales may be seen in figure 17. Notice the bowl-shaped ears, the broad, flat nose with flaring nostrils that open somewhat forward, the broad head and face, the full lips, and the small chin. The legs are short and the body relatively long; the hands and fingers are also short. Compare this Primitive Negrito with the Australoid shown in figure 12 and then contrast both with the Iberian Negrito in figure 18. Differences in the relative proportions of the limb parts, as well as other differences, may be noted. The Iberian has a long, slender nose, the Australoid a large, straight nose, and the Primitive a broad, flat nose. The face of the Iberian is long, that of the Australoid is oval, and that

of the Primitive is round. The Iberian has slender extremities and body, the Primitive is short and squat, and the Australoid is nearly all arms and legs, the body being relatively short.

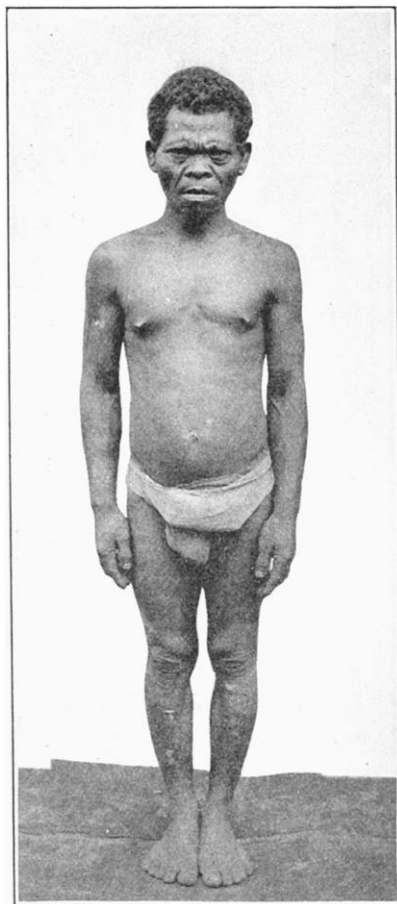


FIG. 17. — A Negrito man from Zamboales. Primitive type.

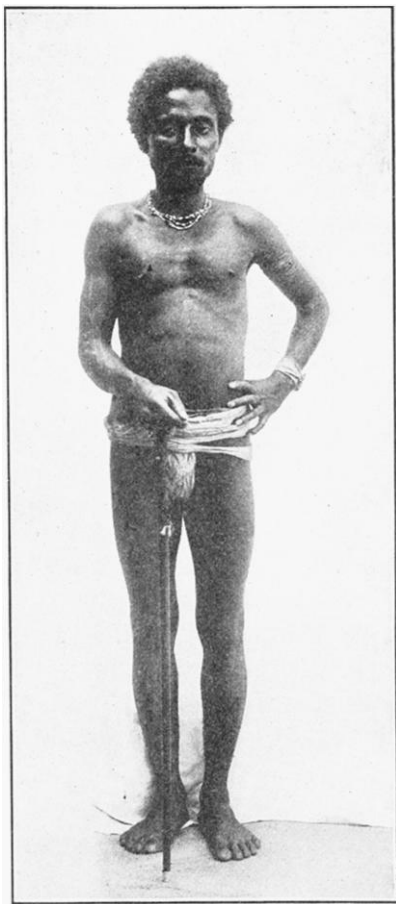


FIG. 18. — A Negrito from Isabela province, eastern Luzon. Iberian type.

ISABELA NEGRITOS

While considering this Iberian Negrito from Isabela province it may be well to mention another Iberian Negrito, Pagatolan, a noted chief of that section of Luzon. Figures 20a and 20b are rather good

pictures of Pagatolan, who "has had three Albino children, two of whom are living and one of whom he has caused to be given Christian baptism. He states that God has been very good to give him white children, and that he proposed to send them to school."

This Negrito is decidedly Iberian. The long, straight, pointed nose, the pointed chin, and the square forehead are all evidences of the Iberian. Unfortunately the ears do not show well, although the lobule and lower helix and concha resemble the Iberian. The Albino children may be expressions of Mendelian heredity from a previous cross between a Negrito and a European.

The Australoid Negrito is the true type of eastern Luzon, and a sub-chief of this region as a representative of the type may be seen in figure 19. The Iberian and the Australoid Negritos are not greatly unlike each other, and this is particularly true of the limb and body parts and their relative proportions. It would seem that the Iberian and the Negrito (Australoid) have been fusing for a long time because the amalgamation of the two types is so nearly complete whereas the Primitive Negrito represents a more recent mixture. This may be emphasized by presenting the photographs of Negritos that represent recent mixtures with the surrounding population, all of such photographs exhibiting a blended condition with Primitive markings.

First, a group of women and children of Zambales province in figure 21 illustrates four grades of blends and shows how the kinky hair of the Negrito may become straight by continual intercrossing

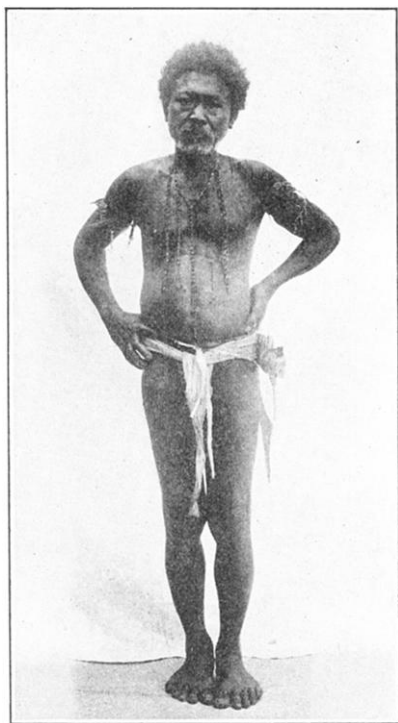


FIG. 19. — A Negrito man from Isabela province. Australoid type.



FIG. 20. — Pagatolan, a Negrito chief of Isabela province. Iberian type.



FIG. 21. — A group of Zambales Negritos of mixed blood. Modified Primitive type.

with the straight haired Filipino. All the individuals are modified Primitive in type.

Next a Negrito of Capiz (fig. 22), in the island of Panay, who has considerable Visayan blood, shows all the marks of a modified Primitive Filipino, with the wavy hair of a mixed Negrito.

The Negritos in the vicinity of the town of Tinabog, on the island of Palawan, are more numerous than in the other parts of the island, but they have mixed with the Visayans who inhabit the town of Tinabog. A representative of this class may be seen in figure 23. The Negritos of the island of Palawan are called Bataks, and this is a representative Batak man. Their peculiar method of shaving the head over the frontal region is noticed in this man who has a typical hair cut. The hair is wavy, a blended hair form, and the other characteristics are modified Primitive and Australoid.

There are Negritos in the Cagayan valley, the great tobacco growing district in northern Luzon, who probably belong to the Negritos of the eastern coast of Luzon. Those of the Cagayan valley have mixed with the Filipinos there, which is indicated by their curly hair and modified form. A striking illustration of this may be seen in the Negrito of figure 24 in the attitude of shooting an arrow from his bow. The trim form, and fine muscular development, especially of the back and arms, calls forth admiration. These Negritos can bend a bow with apparent ease that a white man unaccustomed to such a feat would be unable to bend.

Finally, Negritos are shown standing by the side of six foot

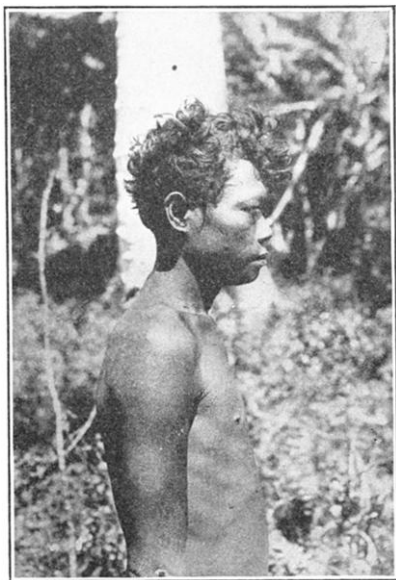


FIG. 22. — A Negrito from Capiz, island of Panay, with considerable Visayan blood. Modified Primitive type.

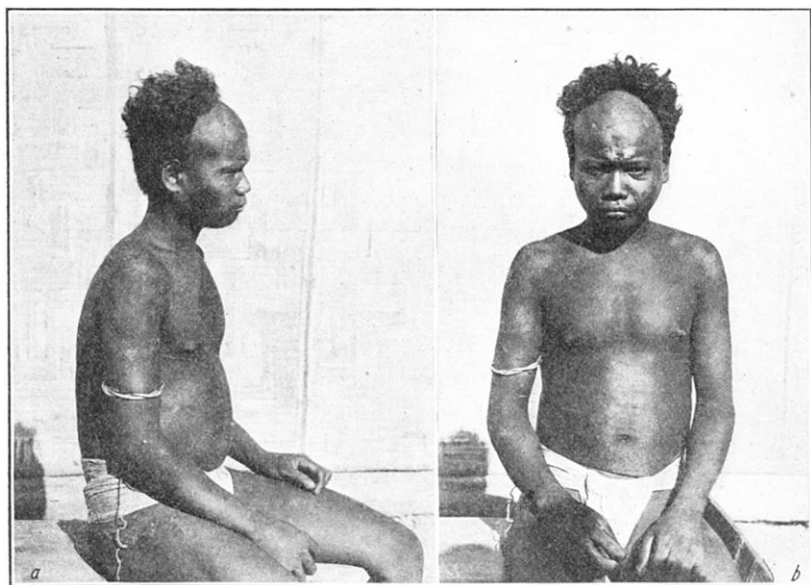


FIG. 23. — A Batak man of Tinabog, island of Palawan. Modified Primitive and Australoid type.

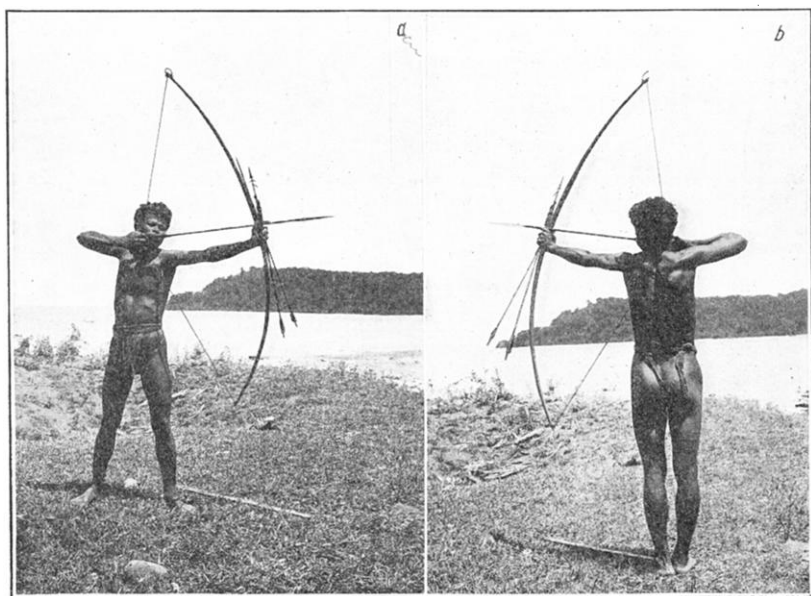


FIG. 24. — A Negrito of Cagayan province, northern Luzon. Blended hair form.

Americans to illustrate the relative size. In figure 25 a Negrito and a mixed Negrito of Zambales may be seen. Both the Negritos are modified Primitive in form, and the curly hair of the mixed Negrito



FIG. 25. —A pure Negrito and a mixed Negrito standing beside an American.



FIG. 26. — A mixed Mangyan Negrito standing beside an American.

indicates that hair form blends in a mixture. In figure 26 is shown a Negrito from the interior of the Island of Mindoro, who is not a pure Negrito, but mixed, as indicated by the curly hair.

DISCUSSION

Three possibilities in heredity are apparent from the study of the ears and physiognomy of the Negritos. First, there is blending in a cross of the Negrito with other types, and the production of a hybrid that has curly or wavy hair and modified Negrito physiognomy. Second, there is persistence of the type crossed with the Negrito, accompanied by kinky or wavy, hair probably an exhibition of alternate heredity or Mendelism. Third there may be mosaics such as the Alpine, with the broad head of the Primitive, the narrow nose of the Iberian, and the kinky hair of the Negrito.

It remains to be determined exactly what takes place in the heredity of cross-bred races such as the European and Negrito, but the indications are that there is blended heredity, mosaic heredity, and alternate heredity with persistence of type which suggests Mendelian heredity. There exist among the Negritos forms of hair, nose, and ear, as well as other features of the physiognomy, intermediate at almost every conceivable point between the widest extremes, and the general effect is that of disorderly blending as represented previously by a scheme for heredity.¹

The origin of the Negrito may never be known, but it seems plausible that the Australoid is the true Negrito type on which the Iberian and the Primitive types have been grafted. The Iberian came from Europe by way of India in prehistoric migrations, and their combinations with the Australoid are represented by the Negritos of Mariveles Mountain and those of the eastern coast of northern Luzon. The Primitive came from the Orient and has mingled with the Iberian-Australoid Negrito throughout the Philippines, altering the form and straightening the hair of the purer Negritos that existed before. The more recent European contact with the Negrito has had very little apparent effect, although an occasional pure Iberian may be found with dark skin and kinky hair. The Negrito element has entered to a considerable extent into the present Filipino population, although it may not be recognized with ease because of the absence of kinky hair. The Negritos have been losing their identity by becoming incorporated into the body of the surrounding population. Where once the Negrito was found in all parts of the archipelago, the only remaining centers in which they exist in anything like their original purity are the two already mentioned, Mariveles mountain and the eastern coast of Luzon. In all other parts the kinky hair has practically disappeared and the Negritos have taken on the form of the surrounding population, distributing their own forms throughout the regions roundabout.

In this connection mention may be made of a Negrito of Cagayan (fig. 27) who is the village dude, and succeeded in straightening his hair by the consistent use of native oils. The unusual ex-

¹ Bean, R. B., *The Racial Anatomy of the Philippine Islanders*, 8vo. Lippincott, 1900.

pression of his countenance with straight instead of woolly hair may be seen. He is not a typical Negrito, although the nose is semi-Australoid and the ear modified Primitive.

The photographs of the Mariveles Negritos were all placed upon a large table before me, and when I scrutinized them carefully I realized that I was looking into the faces of a familiar people, among whom I was born and with whom I grew up, the American negro. Practically every face recalled youthful associations, and every individual of the Mariveles group has its counterpart among American negroes.

The photographs of the Negritos from other parts of the Philippines were likewise disposed upon a large table, replacing the Mariveles Negritos; the familiar faces of the homeland vanished, but in their places appeared the faces that one meets every day in Manila or in the provinces, familiar Filipino types. A few of them still resemble the American negro, which is particularly true of the Negritos of Isabela province.

These casual observations must be taken with reservation because no data can be given to substantiate them; but I believe they indicate a close relationship between the Negrito of the Philippines and the African Negro.

To summarize: The Mariveles Negritos who are apparently purer in type than any other group, and who are largely of the Iberian and Australoid types, have relatively longer noses, faces, and lower extremities than any other group of Negritos represented by photographs; the Zambales Negritos who are largely mixed and

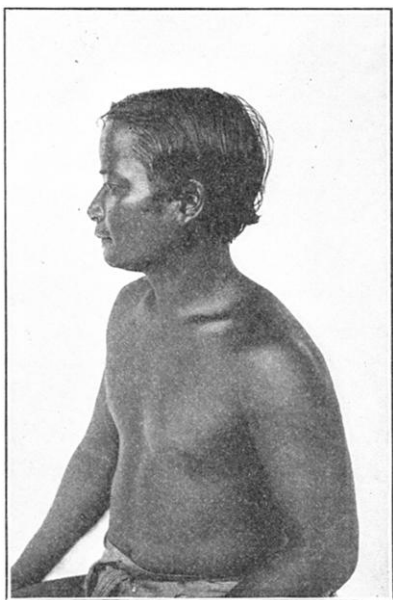


FIG. 27. — A Negrito of Cagayan province with hair artificially straightened.

of the Primitive type, have relatively shorter noses, faces, and lower extremities than any other group; and the remaining groups, who are also much mixed and intermediate between the Iberian and the Primitive, have noses, faces, and lower extremities of intermediate length.

It would appear from the photographs that the purest Negritos are to be found in the Mariveles Mountains, and these Negritos are of the Australoid type. The Iberian characteristics are more or less pure in some individuals, the Primitive is more or less pure in others, but the greater part of them represent the type previously designated by me as Australoid, which is similar to that found among the Igorots and all the littoral Filipinos so far examined.

CONCLUSIONS

Any conclusions reached after a study of the photographs presented must be tentative and subject to revision. It does appear, however, that there are many inseparable factors in the composition of the individual, such as the ear form, nose and face form, and length of the extremities, that constitute a "character-complex" which exists as an entity and in inheritance may act as a unit character.

A "character-complex" is that group of characters, such as the broad head, broad nose, broad face, and characteristic ear, that, combined with small stature, constitute the Primitive species, which character-complex usually hangs together in heredity, but may break up when crossed with alien forms to create new character-complexes.

There is blending of one character-complex with another, but this blending probably does not take place at once upon crossing two extremely different character-complexes such as the Iberian and the Primitive, or the Iberian and the Australoid, but results in the reappearance of one or the other character-complex in pure form, as shown in figure 15, where the true Iberian has the kinky hair and dark skin of the Negrito Australoid.

From this follows the second conclusion, which is that the kinky hair is dominant over the straight hair when the cross takes place among the Negritos; therefore a character-complex may be obscured by the kinky hair, so that an otherwise pure Iberian may appear to be a Negrito because of the character of the hair.

The Negritos in the Mariveles mountain appear to be the purest Negritos in the Philippine Islands, judging from the photographs. All other groups of Negritos are more like the surrounding population. The Negritos of Mariveles should therefore represent the fundamental Negrito type, and as they are largely Australoid the fundamental type of the Negritos should be Australoid. Modified Primitive and modified Iberian Negritos are also found in the Mariveles group. The women are more Primitive than the men, who are more Iberian and Australoid than the women. The Primitive and Iberian characteristics of the Mariveles Negritos are of such a nature that they should be considered as remnants of the fusion that must have progressed for many centuries or even thousands of years to have produced so homogeneous a blend.

May it be presumed that the Primitive and Iberian types conjoined in prehistoric times at some place in the East of Asia or nearby, and produced by fusion the Australoid. From this union innumerable offshoots have sprung in Southern Asia, the islands bordering that region, and in Africa. The Primitive type remains pure in parts of the East, and the Iberian type in Europe. If this hypothesis be untrue, the reverse of it should be considered; viz. the Australoid forms the basic stock of all humanity, and the Iberian of Europe on the one side and the Primitive of the Orient on the other are derivatives. If neither hypothesis be true, at least the Negrito of Mariveles has Primitive and Iberian characteristics ingrafted from without.

My recent discovery of paleolithic man in the Philippines (*Homo Philippinensis*)¹ may throw light on the origin of the Australoid type among the Negritos and among the inland tribes as well as in the littoral population of the archipelago. *Homo Philippinensis* is Australoid in form yet somewhat different from the Negrito Australoid, the Igorot Australoid or the Australoid of the coast, but not so different as to preclude all relationship. *Homo Philippinensis* is also related to the earliest form of man in Europe, *Homo Mousteriensis*, and *Homo Heidelbergensis*; it is of the Neanderthal type, and is not greatly different from the Negro Australoid. The follow-

¹ Bean, op. cit.

ing hypothesis is plausible. Primordial man remained practically unaltered in form in Africa and the Pacific, and *Homo Philippinensis* is this unchanged form; but in Africa the kinky hair and black skin of the negro may be added features due to environment, and the Australoid Negrito is a further modification of the negroid form, due also to environment. Whatever the cause may be, there are at present three types found among the Negritos — the Australoid, the Primitive, and the Iberian; and these three types are found also among the other peoples of the Philippines wherever I have examined them. The Primitive and the Australoid, and doubtless the Iberian, are found in all the islands of the Pacific where search has been made and careful analysis of the people has followed, the first two types often among more or less pure Negritos.

The more profound the study, the more profound becomes the impression that the Primitive, the Australoid, and the Iberian are the three fundamental types of mankind.

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